Fourteenth Loksabha

Session : 8
Date : 03-08-2006

Participants : Acharya Shri Prasanna

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Title : Need to sanction the proposed railway link from Nawapada Road to Bargarh Road via Padampur in Orissa.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (SAMBALPUR): Sir, Nawapada district and Padampur sub-division of Bargarh district in Orissa is one of the most under-developed areas of the country. Padampur Sub-division is divested of irrigation facilities and both the areas do not have any industry. The percentage of people living below poverty line are highest in these areas. In spite of rich natural resources, there are reports of starvation deaths. The living standard of the people is low. To earn a livelihood a large number of people use to migrate to other areas every year. This area is not well connected by road or railways depriving it from trade, commerce and other allied activities. It remains incommunicado from all points of view. There has been, therefore, a consistent demand for construction of a new BG railway link from Nawapada road to Bargrah road *Via* Padampur. The Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey report submitted to the railway Board during February, 2006 is positive having 18.32 per cent Rate of Return (ROR) with a project cost of Rs.416 crore. This proposed rail link will basically cater to the coal requirement of thermal based power plants of Western India to be supplied from Talcher area and Jharsuguda area. It shall also facilitate transportation of goods from Paradeep Port to Central India through this rail link with minimum cost of transportation. The project will also give the shortest connectivity to the steel plants which are coming up in a big way in Orissa for transportation of finished products to Central and Western India. This project shall cater to the needs of the two most economically under-developed districts of Orissa State, i.e., Bargarh and Nowapada and in the process the whole of undivided Sambalpur and Kalahandi districts.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Railway Ministry to sanction the proposed rail link from Nowapada road to Bargarh road *via* Padampur without further delay and make provision in the next Railway Budget to commence the work of the project.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (PARVATIPURAM): Sir, I would like to associate myself with this issue.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री बी.के.देव का नाम भी असोसियेट कर दीजिए।